ध्यान में रखते हुए संपीड़ित प्राकृतिक गैस जैसे ऊर्जा के किन्हीं वैकल्पिक स्रोतों पर कार्य कर रहा है; और

(ख) क्या इस संबंध में अनुसंधान और विकास स्कन्ध द्वारा कोई प्रगति की गई है; यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री ब्रह्म दत्त) : (क) और (ख) तेल एवं प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग ने आयातित किट की सहायता से गैसोलीन और डीज़ल से चलने वाले वाहनों को सम्पीड़ित प्राकृतिक गैस (सीएनजी) के प्रयोग से चलाये जाने के लिए उनमें फेर-बदल किया है। गुजरात राज्य पथ परिवहन निगम (जीएसआरटीसी) की कुछ बातों में फेर बदल करके उसे सीएनजी से चलने का भी उनका प्रस्ताव है। जीएसआरटीसी को तेल उद्योग विकास बोर्ड ने 28 लाख रुपये का अनुदान दिया है। ये केवल प्रायोगिक अध्ययन है। सीएनजी के वाणिज्यिक प्रयोग का कार्य अभी तक हाथ में नहीं लिया गया है।

Payment of royalty for crude oil to Gujarat

2379. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government have not yet paid royalty on crude oil to Gujarat Government though it is overdue;

(b) when the royalty was last revised and when the next revision is due; and

(c) what are the reasons for not following the accepted guidelines in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The Central Government does not pay royalty on crude oil. Royalty on the production of crude oil is payable by the oil producing companies concerned to the State or Central Government, as the case may be. The royalty due to the State Government of Gujarat at the current rate is being paid as due.

(b) and (c) According to the provisions of the Oil Fields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948 the rate of royalty cannot be enhanced in less than three years. The last revision of royalty took place with effect from 1-4-1984.

Royalty on Natural Gas

2380. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any royalty on natural gas is being paid to Gujarat Government;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the criteria to determine such royalty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to the provisions of the Petroleum & Natural Gas Rules, 1959, royalty on natural gas is paid at 10 percent of its value at the well-head.

Cheating by petrol pumps dealers

2381. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that majority of the petrol pump dea-

lers in Delhi are making short supplies and cheating the customers; and

(b) how many petrol/diesel pumps are operating at present in Delhi and how many surprise checks were made on measures during the last three years, year-wise and petrol pump-wise and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS. (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There are 235 petrol/diesel pumps in the Union Territory of Delhi. These are inspected by the Delhi Weight & Measures Department on regular basis besides the Oil Companies. The number of inspections conducted and prosecutions made by that Department during the last three years are given below:—

Year	No. of Inspections carried	No. of Prosecutions made
1986	1714	94
1987	1307	30
1988 & upto March '89	1514	80

Paper strip to detect concentration of Iodine in Salt

2382. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the development of "Iodine detection paper strip" to measure the iodine concentration in iodine salt;

(b) whether Government propose to commercialise this product; and

(c) if so, what decision, if any, has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavnagar, have developed a process entitled 'Indicator paper for on-the-spot testing of iodine in iodised salt' and they propose to commercialise the know-how after completing the procedural formalities in this regard.

Special chemical for checking chrome pollution

2383. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a private Indian company in collaboration with Central Leather Research Institute, Madras has developed a special chemical for use in leather industry which controls pollution, especially chrome pollution; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The Central Leather Research Institute, Madras, with a private company, has developed a new product which contributes to higher chrome exhaustion and therefore reduction of chrome in waste streams. The Institute has also developed